

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1, 20, 54, and 55 have been amended, and claims 49-53 and 99 have been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 1, 2, 6, 8-11, 13-28, 30, 32, 35, 37, 40-44, 54-58, 78, 83-85, 91-98 and 110-149 are pending and under consideration. Briefly, it is noted that the Office Action has set forth rejections of claims 3-4, 7, 12, 29, 31, 33-34, 36, 39, 45-48, 59-70, 73-77, 79-82, 86-90, and 100-106, while these claims are currently not pending, as they have been previously canceled.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

REQUEST FOR WITHDRAWAL OF FINALITY

It is respectfully submitted that the outstanding Office Action was improperly made Final, as applicants previous amendments to claim 20, for example, did not change the scope or breadth of claim 20. The changing of "requires" to "requests" was only a clarifying amendment that was consistent with the specification's description of the claimed invention, and should have been understood to have the same meaning.

As the outstanding Office Action has issued a new rejection rationale for claim 20, and since the non-substantive amendments to claim 20 did not necessitate the same, it is respectfully submitted that the outstanding Office Action could not be made Final.

Withdrawal of the Finality of the outstanding Office Action is respectfully requested.

ENTRY OF RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116:

Applicant(s) request(s) entry of this Rule 116 Response and Request for Reconsideration because:

(a) it is believed that the amendment of claims 1, 20, 54, and 55 puts this application into better condition for allowance;

(b) the amendments were not earlier presented because the Applicant(s) believed in good faith that the cited prior art did not disclose the present invention as previously claimed;

(c) the amendments of claims 1, 20, 54, and 55 should not entail any further search by the Examiner since no new features are being added the claims as a whole or no new issues are being raised, as the same features have already been searched and considered by the Examiner in previous amendment to claim 1, for example;

(d) the amendments of claims 1, 20, 54, and 55 do not significantly alter the scope of the claims and place the application at least into a better form for appeal. Again, no new features or new issues are being raised; and/or

(e) the references applied to the claims are newly cited in the final Office Action, and Applicant(s) should be provided the opportunity to present patentability arguments and amendments in view thereof.

The Manual of Patent Examining Procedures sets forth in §714.12 that "[a]ny amendment that would place the case either in condition for allowance or in better form for appeal may be entered." (Underlining added for emphasis) Moreover, §714.13 sets forth that "[t]he Proposed Amendment should be given sufficient consideration to determine whether the claims are in condition for allowance and/or whether the issues on appeal are simplified." The Manual of Patent Examining Procedures further articulates that the reason for any non-entry should be explained expressly in the Advisory Action.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 USC § 103

Claims 1-2, 20, 41, and 83-85, stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Inoue et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,580,462) in view of well known knowledge in the art.

By way of review and only as an example, independent claim 1 sets forth:

A display apparatus capable of being connected to an external storage medium disposed external to the display apparatus, the display apparatus comprising:

a receiving processor that receives a television broadcasting signal and at least one of a digital video signal and an audio signal from the external storage medium;

a controller that, if a user commands storage of the received digital video signal and audio signal, stores the received digital video signal and audio signal in the external storage medium;

a display unit to display the received digital video signal;

a speaker to output the received audio signal; and

a port disposed on the display apparatus, through which the received digital video signal and audio signal are transmitted from the display apparatus to the external storage medium,

wherein the controller is connected to the external storage medium through the port.

It is respectfully submitted that Inoue et al. does not teach or suggest the display unit and speaker **included in** the display apparatus.

In addition, claim 1 recites that the controller is connected to the external storage medium, whereas, referring to lines 37-44 of column 8 of Inoue et al. below, Inoue et al. discloses that digital data can be exchanged between the receiver 3 and external digital devices via the I/O terminal 20T, but Inoue et al. does **not** disclose that the controller is connected to the external storage medium.

In this embodiment, the I/O terminal 20T is an IEEE-1394 I/O terminal that complies with the interface standards of IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers).
Thus, digital data can be exchanged between the receiver 3 in this embodiment and external digital devices such as a DVTR, a hard disk device (referred to as "AVHDD device") capable of recording and reproducing digital video and audio signals, MD device, or the like.

In addition to the above, again, claim 1 at least recites "a display apparatus capable of being connected to ..."

Inoue et al. discusses "[a]s shown FIG. 1, the decoding section 14 is provided with an MPEG decoding section 141, DRAM 142 which serves as a work area for the MPEG decoding processing, NTSC encoding section 143, and an audio signal D/A conversion circuit 144." (see col. 7, lines 55-59 and FIG. 1 of Inoue et al.).

As noted above, Inoue et al. merely discloses a decoding section but fails to disclose a display apparatus as recited in claim 1.

Further, claim 1 recites "a display unit to display the received digital video signal.

Inoue et al. discusses "interface for connection to the MODEM 41, IC card interface 42, remote control interface 43, main unit display interface 44 and the external memory interface 45 are arranged in a so-called gate array which is implemented by a single LSI." (col. 5, lines 33-37 and FIG. 1 of Inoue et al.-emphasis added).

As noted above, Inoue et al. discloses main unit display interface 44 but fails to disclose a display unit to display the received digital video signal as recited in claim 1.

In addition, claim 1 recites "a speaker to output the received digital audio signal."

Inoue et al. discusses "the decompressed audio signals are supplied to the audio signal D/A conversion circuit 144, so as to be converted into analog audio signals, the analog audio signals are supplied to a speaker of monitor receiver for example, through an external output terminal 16, whereby voices and sounds are reproduced through the speaker." (see col. 8, lines 13-19 and FIG. 1 of Inoue et al.-emphasis added).

As such, Inoue et al. discloses a D/A conversion circuit 144 but fails to discuss a speaker to output the received digital audio signal as recited in claim 1.

Claim 1 recites "a port disposed on the display apparatus, through which the received digital video signal and audio signal are transmitted from the display apparatus to the external storage medium."

Inoue et al. discusses "FIG. 1 is a block diagram illustrative of an embodiment of the digital broadcast receiving system in accordance with the present invention."

As noted above, FIG.1 of the Inoue et al. is a broadcast receiving system but not a display apparatus recited in claim 1.

Therefore, claim 1 and its dependent claims 2, 83, 84, and 85 are believed to be allowable for at least the foregoing reasons.

Claim 20 recites that a compression and decompression unit is set to a compression mode if a user requests storing of the received digital video signal and audio signal, and is set to a decompression mode if the user requests reproduction of the digital video signal and audio signal stored in the external storage medium. However, referring to lines 61-67 of column 7, and line 14 of column 11 through line 55 of column 12 of Inoue et al., Inoue et al. discloses that the MPEG decoding section 141 conducts decompression processing, but does not teach or suggest the technical feature of setting the compression mode and the decompression mode.

In addition, referring to lines 1-24 of column 9 of Inoue et al., Inoue et al. does not disclose that the controller controls the compression and decompression unit in the compression mode if the user requests the storage, as recited in claim 20.

The Office Action does not state the reasons why the output unit recited in claim 20 was rejected. Therefore, **it is respectfully submitted that the rejection claim 20 is improper.**

As such, it is respectfully submitted that Inoue et al. does teach or suggest the invention as recited in claim 20.

Claim 41 recites a method of operating a display apparatus connected with an external storage medium, the method comprising compressing the received video signal and audio signal, storing the compressed video signal and audio signal in the external storage medium, wherein the display apparatus is connected to the external storage medium through a port. However, Inoue et al. does not disclose the above technical features of claim 41 of the present application.

In addition, claim 41 recites "receiving at least one of a digital video signal and audio signal at the display apparatus."(emphasis added).

As noted above, Inoue et al. does not disclose display apparatus recited in claim 41.

Further, claim 41 recites "restoring the stored and compressed video and audio signal stored in the external storage medium, when the user requests reproduction of the digital video signal and audio signal using the display apparatus."(emphasis added).

Inoue et al. fails to disclose “when the user requests reproduction of the digital video signal and audio signal using the display apparatus.” as recited in claim 41.

In addition, claim 41 recites “outputting the restored video signal and audio signal using the display apparatus.”

Inoue et al. fails to disclose outputting the restored video signal and audio signal using the display apparatus as recited in claim 41.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Inoue et al. fails to disclose the invention as recited in claim 41.

As noted above, though identified in the Office Action within this rejection, claim 100 was canceled in the amendment filed on March 10, 2009.

Regarding claim 2, the Office Action acknowledges that Inoue et al. does not disclose “wherein the controller, according to a request from the user and when the received digital video signal and/or audio signal are stored in the external storage medium, determines whether the received digital video signal and/or audio signal is to be output through the port.”

On page 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner takes Official Notice that it is notoriously well known in the art to use multiple video decoders to decode multiple video streams to perform parallel processing, and a single audio decoder to decode the audio data since the one audio decoder is all that is required for the recording system and the reproduction system. By taking Official Notice, the rejection is being based, in part, on the personal knowledge of the Examiner. The personal knowledge of the Examiner, when used as a basis for a rejection, must be supported by an affidavit as to the specifics of the facts of that knowledge when called for by the applicant. See, MPEP 2144.03, 37 C.F.R. § 1.104(d)(2). In short, the rules of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office require that the Examiner must either support this assertion with an Affidavit, or withdraw the rejection. Therefore, it is further respectfully requested that the Examiner support the rejection with either an affidavit or a reference, or withdraw the rejection of claim 2.

As noted above, though identified in the Office Action within this rejection, claim 81 was canceled in the amendment filed on March 10, 2009.

In addition, 83-85 are patentable due at least to the same reasons as claim 2, as well as for the additional recitations therein.

Claims 13-18, 30, 32, 35, 37, 40, and 54-56, stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Miyatake (U.S. Published Application No. 2003/0192058).

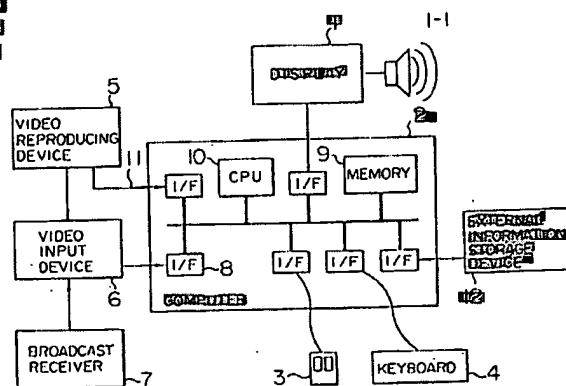
Briefly, on page 8, the Office Action has only stated that claims 55 and 56 are rejected based on the grounds for rejection of claim 1, without a discussion of the features of claims 55 and 56. It is respectfully submitted that this is improper and applicants request a new Office Action addressing these claims in full.

In addition, on page 8, the Office Action has rejected claim 54 based upon Miyatake, while 54 was dependent on claim 49, which was differently rejected based on Inoue et al. Here, claim 54 cannot be rejected under a different reference from claim 49 within this §102 rejection. Applicants again request a new Office Action clarifying how claim 54 is being rejected.

Claim 13 of the present application recites the technical feature of a display apparatus capable of being connected to an external storage medium, whereas, referring to paragraph 32 and FIG. 1 of Miyatake below, a display 1 of Miyatake displays an output screen of a computer 2, and various kinds of information can be stored in an external information storage device 12. Thus, Miyatake does not disclose the technical feature that the display 1 is directly connected to the external information storage device 12.

[0032] FIG. 1 is an example of a schematic block diagram of a system configuration for implementing the present invention. Numeral 1 denotes a display device such as a CRT for displaying an output screen of a computer 2. Instructions to the computer 2 can be given by using a pointing device 3 or a keyboard 4. A video reproducing device 5 is an optical disk or a video deck. Video signals outputted from the video reproducing device 5 are successively converted to digital image data by a video input device 6 and sent to the computer 2. When occasion demands, it is also possible to take in video images which are being broadcasted and a video signal fed from a broadcast receiver 7 is inputted to the video input device 6. Within the computer 2, digital image data are inputted to a memory 9 via an interface 8 and processed by a CPU 10 in accordance with a program stored in the memory 9. In case the video handled by the CPU 10 is being sent from the video reproducing device 5, frame images are provided with numbers (frame numbers) in order from the head of the video. By sending a frame number to the video reproducing device via a control line 11, the video of the pertinent scene is reproduced. In case of a video sent from the broadcast receiver 7, there are no frame numbers. As occasion demands in this case, therefore, time when an image has been taken in is recorded and used instead of

FIG. 1



frame number. Under the necessity of internal processing of the computer, various kinds of information can be stored in an external information storage device 12. In the memory 9, various data produced by processing described hereafter are stored. The various data stored in the memory 9 are referred to as occasion demands.

In addition, claim 13 of the present application recites that a receiving processor receives at least one of a digital video signal and an audio signal, and a controller forms a virtual file system for an external storage medium included in the display apparatus, whereas, Miyatake does not teach or suggest that the display 1 includes elements corresponding to the receiving processor and the controller.

Specially, referring to paragraphs 40 and 41 and FIGS. 4 and 5 of Miyatake below, Miyatake discloses that video data corresponding to the frame number of the scene head are extracted from video data represented by a structure 50 shown in FIG. 5 and the user inputs and registers attribute information of the selected video via the keyboard 4. However, Miyatake does not teach or suggest that a controller forms a virtual file system for an external storage medium, as recited in claim 13 of the present application.

Then, since the Office Action has not interpreted that the controller is connected to the external storage medium through a port, as recited in claim 13, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claim 13 is improper.

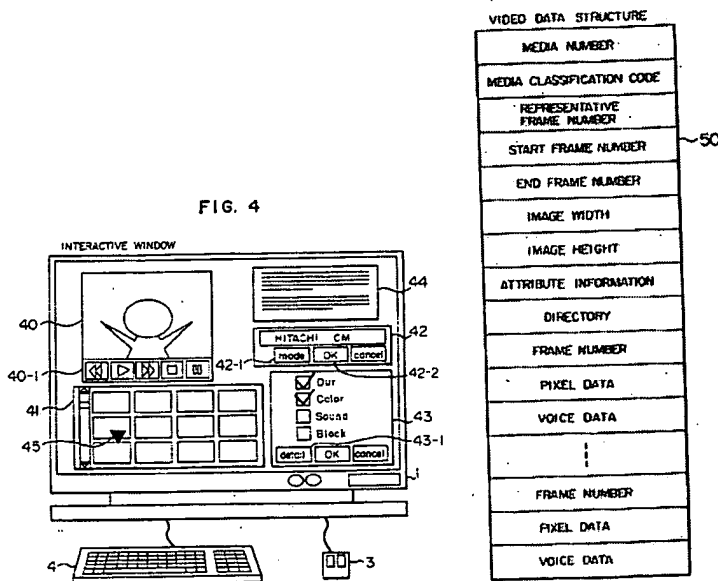
Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claim 13 and its dependent claims 14-18 are patentable for at least the foregoing reasons.

[0040] FIG. 4 shows an embodiment of a display screen used for interaction with the user. A frame image of a video is reproduced and displayed on a monitor window 40 of a computer display. Besides the monitor window 40, windows displayed on the same screen includes a window 41 for displaying a list of extraction results of representative frame images, a text window 42 for inputting an attribute of an enquiry video, a window 43 for specifying the kind of a feature to be used at the time of retrieval, and a window 44 for displaying a result of retrieval. These windows can be moved to arbitrary positions by operating a cursor 45. The cursor 45 can be freely moved by using a mouse which is one of the pointing devices 3. For inputting a text, the keyboard 4 is used. A button 40-1 is a button for controlling the reproduction state of a video. By clicking the button 40-1 with the mouse, control such as video reproduction, rapid traverse, or rewind can be exercised. Furthermore, the scene to be reproduced can be selected by clicking a representative frame image included in the list displayed on the window 41. At that time, the video to be reproduced may be a video outputted from the video reproducing device 5 connected to the computer, or a digitized video registered in the external information storage device. In case of the video reproducing device 5, the frame number of the head of a scene is sent to the video reproducing device and reproduction is started from a scene corresponding to the frame number. When a

frame number of the scene end is reached, an instruction for discontinuing the reproduction is sent to the video reproducing device 5. In case of a digitized video, video data corresponding to the frame number of the scene head are extracted from video data represented by a structure 50 shown in FIG. 5, for example, and displayed as graphic data. Sound data associated with image data are also stored in the structure 50 and may be outputted to a speaker 1-1. When display processing corresponding to one frame has been finished, display processing of the next frame is conducted in succession to display a moving picture. According to the time required for display processing, the number of frame images displayed to a fixed time is adjusted so that the video may not be traversed rather rapidly or rather slowly. In the monitor window 40, a video fed from the broadcast receiver 7 can also be displayed.

[0041] The operation procedure of the user for retrieving a video by using the screen of FIG. 4 will hereafter be described. In order to specify an enquiry video, the user first selects several representative frames arranged in the window 41 by clicking them with the mouse. In the text window 42, the user then inputs and registers attribute information, such as the title and character names, of the selected video via the keyboard. The number of registered information pieces is arbitrary. In the window 43, the user then specifies which and which of the time length, color, sound, the number of divided blocks and the like should be adopted as features to be used as the retrieval condition. In the window 43, "detail" button 43-1 is included. By clicking the "detail" button 43-1, a detail window is opened and a value region of a specified feature can be determined according to the user's choice. This operation is conducted only when there is a change request. Typically, retrieval is conducted by using features preset by the system. After the retrieval condition has been prepared, a retrieval range is specified. As for this operation, the kind of a video and a retrieval time zone can be specified by clicking "mode" button 42-1 included in the text window 42 and causing the retrieval range specifying mode. Finally, the user issues a retrieval start request. This is also conducted by clicking the "mode" button 42-1, causing the retrieval request mode, and clicking "OK" button 422. The system starts retrieval processing and displays the obtained result in the window 44. Displayed contents include attribute information and time information.

FIG. 5



In addition to the above, claim 13 recites "a controller that forms a virtual file system for the external storage medium." (emphasis added).

An aspect of present invention is related to "CPU 118 forms a virtual file system (i.e., a system for managing the stored data) for the storage medium 143 in operation 302. The CPU 118 can download a file system managed by the CPU 142 of the PC 140 or stored on the storage medium 143 using the USB controller 119, and forms the virtual file system. However, the virtual file system can also be stored locally in the display apparatus 110. According to an aspect of the invention, the virtual file system is an abstraction of a physical file system and allows a consistent interface to multiple file systems, both local and remote, and allows a single directory to reference a number of diverse file system types as if the files were in a consistent file system type. However, it is understood that other file systems could be used so long as the file system, whether virtual or otherwise, allows the CPU 118 access to the stored audio and/or video data in the storage medium 143."(see paragraph[0046] of the present invention).

Miyatake discloses "under the necessity of internal processing of the computer, various kinds of information can be stored in an external information storage device 12." (paragraph [0032] of Miyatake).

As discussed above, Miyatake only discusses "various kind of information is stored in an external information storage device" and fails to disclose "a receiving processor to receive a digital video signal and/or an audio signal," as recited in claim 13.

Further, Miyatake discloses "FIG. 12 is an entire block diagram of another embodiment of video retrieval processing according to the present invention. It is executed within the computer 2. Although the embodiment of video retrieval processing shown in FIG. 2 can also be executed at high speed, real time processing, i.e., the speed of 30 frames per second is the limit. An embodiment for exceeding the limit is shown in FIG. 12. The embodiment of FIG. 12 is different from that of FIG. 2 in that the representative frame extractor 20 and the character string converter 21 of FIG. 2 are eliminated and a character string input processor 120 of representative frame is installed instead. All that the character string input processor 120 does is to receive a character string of a representative frame of the target video stored beforehand in the external information storage device 12 as an index and send it to a video name generator 121"(see paragraph [0056]-emphasis added).

As mentioned above, Miyatake only discloses an external information storage device for storing information of video.

However Miyatake fails to disclose "a controller that forms a virtual file system for the external storage medium..." as recited in claim 13.(emphasis added).

Miyatake discusses "At that time, the video to be reproduced may be a video outputted from the video reproducing device 5 connected to the computer, or a digitized video registered in the external information storage device. In case of the video reproducing device 5, the frame number of the head of a scene is sent to the video reproducing device and reproduction is started from a scene corresponding to the frame number. When a frame number of the scene end is reached, an instruction for discontinuing the reproduction is sent to the video reproducing device 5. In case of a digitized video, video data corresponding to the frame number of the scene head are extracted from video data represented by a structure 50 shown in FIG. 5." (see a portion of paragraph[0040] and FIG. 5 of Miyatake).

As noted above, FIG. 5 of Miyatake is "video data structure," but it not virtual file system as recited in claim 13. Claim 30 recites features similar to claim 13. Thus, claim 30 and its dependent claims 32, 35, 37, 40, and 91 are also patentable for at least the reasons as those of claim 13

In addition, claim 30 recites "forming a virtual file system for the external storage medium; generating management information for the external storage medium using the virtual file system; providing the generated management information to the user before the user requests the storage or the reproduction of the received digital video signal and audio signal."

The Office Action asserts on page 10, lines 10 of the outstanding office action that "the representative images are part of the virtual file system"

However, it is noted that a representative images in Miyatake are merely stored image data but the stored image data is different from a virtual file system recited in claim 30.

An aspect of present invention is related to "CPU 118 forms a virtual file system (i.e., a system for managing the stored data) for the storage medium 143 in operation 302. The CPU 118 can download a file system managed by the CPU 142 of the PC 140 or stored on the storage medium 143 using the USB controller 119, and forms the virtual file system. However, the virtual file system can also be stored locally in the display apparatus 110. According to an aspect of the invention, the virtual file system is an abstraction of a physical file system and allows a consistent interface to multiple file systems, both local and remote, and allows a single directory to reference a number of diverse file system types as if the files were in a consistent file system type. However, it is understood that other file systems could be used so long as the file system, whether virtual or otherwise, allows the CPU 118 access to the stored audio and/or video data in the storage medium 143."(see paragraph[0046] of the present application).

As such, it is respectfully submitted that Miyatake does not disclose the invention as recited in claim 30. It is respectfully submitted that claim 91 is equally allowable for its dependence from claim 30.

Further, Miyatake discusses "The operation procedure of the user for retrieving a video by using the screen of FIG. 4 will hereafter be described. In order to specify an enquiry video, the user first selects several" (see a portion of paragraph [0041]).

As noted above, Miyatake discusses how to retrieve a video but fails to discuss "the controller downloads a file system stored in the external storage medium and uses the downloaded file system to form a virtual system," as recited in claim 14.

As such, it is respectfully requested that Miyatake does not disclose the features of present invention as recited in claim 14.

Claim 15 is patentable due at least to its depending from claim 13, as well as for the additional recitations therein.

Claim 16 recites "the information generated on the basis of the virtual file system comprises management information for the external storage medium" which is not recited in Miyatake.(emphasis added).

As such, it is respectfully submitted that Miyatake does not disclose the invention as recited in claim 16.

Claim 17 recites "wherein the management information comprises a storage capacity of the external storage medium."

Miyatake discusses "The operation procedure of the user for retrieving a video by using the screen of FIG. 4 will hereafter be described. In order to specify an enquiry video, the user first selects several representative frames arranged in the window 41 by clicking them with the mouse. In the text window 42, the user then inputs and registers attribute information, such as the title and character names, of the selected video via the keyboard. The number of registered information pieces is arbitrary. In the window 43, the user then specifies which and which of the time length, color, sound, the number of divided blocks and the like should be adopted as features to be used as the retrieval condition. In the window 43, "detail" button 43-1 is included. By clicking the "detail" button 43-1, a detail window is opened and a value region of a specified feature can be determined according to the user's choice. This operation is conducted only when there is a change request. Typically, retrieval is conducted by using features preset by the system. After the retrieval condition has been prepared, a retrieval range is specified. As for this operation, the kind of

a video and a retrieval time zone can be specified by clicking "mode" button 42-1 included in the text window 42 and causing the retrieval range specifying mode. Finally, the user issues a retrieval start request. This is also conducted by clicking the "mode" button 42-1, causing the retrieval request mode, and clicking "OK" button 422. The system starts retrieval processing and displays the obtained result in the window 44. Displayed contents include attribute information and time information."(see paragraph[0041] of Miyatake).

As noted above, Miyatake does not disclose "wherein the management information comprises a storage capacity of the external storage medium."

As such, it is respectfully submitted that claim 17 be allowed.

Claim 18 is patentable due at least to its depending from claim 17, as well as for the additional recitations therein

Claim 32, 35, 37, and 40 are patentable due at least to its depending from claim 30, as well as for the additional recitations therein.

Though identified in the Office Action within this rejection, claim 39 was canceled in the amendment filed March 10, 2009.

Independent claims 54 and 55 at least set forth a display unit to display the digital video signal and the television broadcasting signal.

As noted above, Inoue et al. fails to disclose a display unit to display the digital video signal and the television broadcasting signal.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Inoue et al. does not teach or suggest the invention as recited in claim 54-56.

Claim 19 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Inoue et al. in view of Kovacevic (U.S. Patent No. 7,030,930).

Briefly, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claim 19 is improper, as the Office Action has rejected the corresponding base claim 13 based upon Miyatake, and now differently claim 19 based on Inoue et al. in view of Kovacevic, without addressing the required features of claim 13. In addition, the rejection of claim 19 makes reference to claim 4, however claim 19 does not depend from claim 4. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request a new Office Action with clarification of how claim 19 is being rejected.

Regardless, as mentioned above, Inoue et al. does not disclose the invention as recited in claim 13 and further, the Office Action acknowledges that "Inoue et al. does not disclose the output unit in Picture-In-Picture format or in a Picture-By-Picture format." as recited in claim 19.

Further, even assuming arguendo, Kovacevic discloses output unit in Picture-In-Picture format or in a Picture-By-Picture format, Inoue et al. is not relied upon and does not suggest such a feature.

As such, it is respectfully submitted that the combination of Inoue et al. and Kovacevic does not teach or suggest the invention as recited in claim 19.

Claims 6, 8-11, 21-27, 42-44, and 110-149 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Inoue et al. in view of Miyatake.

It is noted that, though identified in the Office Action within this rejection, claims 12, 29, and 79 were canceled in the amendment filed on March 10, 2009.

The Office Action acknowledges that Inoue et al. fails to disclose "wherein if an input of the user requests control of the external storage medium, the controller outputs management information through the port, and uses the management information to manage the storage or reproduction of the received digital video signal and audio signal with respect to the external storage medium" recited in claim 6.

Claim 6 recites "if an input of the user requests control of the external storage medium, the controller outputs management information through the port, and uses the management information to manage the storage or reproduction of the received digital video signal and audio signal with respect to the external storage medium."(emphasis added).

As noted above, Miyatake fails to disclose the invention as recited in claim 6.

As such, it respectfully submitted that the combination of Inoue et al. and Miyatake does not teach or suggest the invention as recited in claim 6.

Claims 8-11 are patentable due at least to their depending from claim 6, as well as for the additional recitations therein.

Claim 21 recites "the controller forms a virtual file system for the external storage medium, and controls the storage or reproduction of the video and audio signals with the respect to the external storage medium using the virtual file system."

As noted above, it is respectfully submitted that the combination of Inoue et al. and Miyatake does not disclose the invention as recited in claim 21.

As such, it is respectfully submitted that the combination of Inoue et al. and Miyatake does not teach or suggest the invention as recited in claim 21.

Claims 22-27 are patentable due at least to their depending from claim 21, as well as for the additional recitations therein.

Claim 42 recites "forming a virtual system for the external storage medium..."

As noted previously, it is respectfully submitted that Miyatake does not disclose the invention as recited in claim 42.

As such, it is respectfully submitted that the combination of Inoue et al. and Miyatake does not teach or suggest the invention as recited claim 42.

Claims 43 and 44 are patentable due at least to their depending from claim 42, as well as for the additional recitations therein.

Claims 110-149 stand rejected the same grounds for rejecting claims 1, 6, 8, 9, and 10.

In addition, claim 147 recites a USB controller, and an OSD information generator, but since the Office Action does **not** state the reasons why the USB controller and the OSD information generator recited therein were rejected. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claim 147 is **improper**.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 110-149 are patentable due at least to the same or similar rationale as claims 1, 6, 8, 9, and 10, as well as for the additional recitations therein.

Claim 28 is patentable due at least to its depending from claim 20, as well as for the addition recitations therein.

Claims 57, 58, 78 and 92-98 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miyatake in view of Inoue et al.

It is noted that, though identified in the Office Action within this rejection, claims 71 and 72 were canceled in the amendment filed on March 10, 2009.

Claims 57 and 58 are patentable due at least to their depending from claim 55, as well as for the additional recitations therein.

Claim 78 is patentable due at least to their depending from claim 30, as well as for the additional recitations therein.

Claims 92-98 are patentable due at least to their depending from claim 30, as well as for the additional recitations therein.

CONCLUSION

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: 10/8/05

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